Appeal Nos. 12-57026, 12-57211, 12-57205, 12-57247

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

Appeal No. 12-57026

Appeal No. 12-57205

MICHAEL SHAMES, et al., Plaintiffs-Appellees,

MICHAEL SHAMES, et al., Plaintiffs-Appellees,

v.

v.

GORDON HANSMEIER, Objector-Appellant, ANDREW CESARE; CERY PERLE; GARY BISHOP; FRANK DEJULIUS,

Objector-Appellants,

v.

THE HERTZ CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendants-Appellees.

THE HERTZ CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendants-Appellees.

Plaintiffs- Appellees,

Appeal No. 12-57211

Appeal No. 12-57247

MICHAEL SHAMES, *et al.*, Plaintiffs-Appellees,

v.

v.
MICHAEL J. SCHULZ,
Objector-Appellant,

MICHAEL SHAMES, et al.,

THOMAS J. LAVERY, Objector-Appellant,

* 7

THE HERTZ CORPORATION, $\it et~al.,$

THE HERTZ CORPORATION, *et al.*, Defendants-Appellees.

Defendants-Appellees.

ON APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA – THE HONORABLE MICHAEL M. ANELLO, CASE NO. 07-CV-2174-MMA(WMC)

DEFENDANTS-APPELLEES' OPPOSITION TO OBJECTOR-APPELLANTS' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

MICHAEL F. TUBACH
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER, 28TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3823
TELEPHONE: (415) 984-8700

FACSIMILE: (415) 984-8701

Attorney for Defendant-Appellee The Hertz Corporation Additional Counsel on Signature Pages Yesterday, on the eve of their deadline to file an opening brief—and after requesting and receiving multiple extensions—Objector-Appellants filed a second Streamlined Request for an Extension of Time to File an Opening Brief. The Court properly denied this request sua sponte the same day. *See* 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(a) (providing for "a single extension of time" under the Court's streamlined procedure). In response, yesterday evening Objector-Appellants moved for an additional extension of four weeks to file their brief. This motion should be denied as well because: (1) it is untimely, and (2) Objector-Appellants have failed to demonstrate diligence and substantial need.

Pursuant to Ninth Circuit Rule 31-2.2(b), a written motion for an extension of time "shall be filed at least 7 days before the expiration of the time prescribed for filing the brief." 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(b). Objector-Appellants' motion is untimely, and they have provided no reason why they could not have filed the motion earlier, in accordance with Circuit Rules.

Even if Objector-Appellants' motion were timely, an extension "may be granted" under these circumstances "only upon written motion supported by a showing of diligence and substantial need." 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(b). Objector-Appellants have not met this burden, in part because they apply the wrong legal standard. Despite the fact that the Court's denial of Objector-Appellants' second streamlined request for an extension specifically directed Objector-Appellants to

the correct provision, they mistakenly assert that their motion may be granted based upon a showing of "good cause," which is the standard under Ninth Circuit Rule 31-2.2(a), not 31-2.2(b). *See* 9th Cir. R. 31-2.2(a) & (b); Objector-Appellants' Mot. at 1.

Without even addressing the issue of diligence in the prosecution of this appeal, Objector-Appellants provide three cursory reasons for why they need another extension, none of which meets the "substantial need" requirement of Rule 31-2.2(b). First, Objector-Appellants offer that one of the three lawyers who have entered appearances on behalf of Objector-Appellants has two other briefs due within the next two weeks. Objector-Appellants' Mot. at 2. Objector-Appellants do not explain why briefs due in two weeks would prevent them from filing a brief today.

Second, they claim the need for a further extension because "the associate handling this matter advanced her maternity leave date by one month and as such I must again become familiar with the case to prepare the opening brief." *Id.* This reason raises more questions than it answers. Objector-Appellants do not explain when the associate became unavailable due to her maternity leave. Presumably this occurred yesterday or Objector-Appellants would have filed their motion for a further extension earlier. But by yesterday, the day before the opening brief is due, one would expect a fairly advanced draft of a brief to have been written already.

Perhaps most troubling is counsel's admission that he is not "familiar with the case" on the day before his opening brief is due, after having received multiple extensions to file the brief. And there is no mention at all of the schedules of the other lawyers who have entered appearances on behalf of other Objector-Appellants.

Finally, Objector-Appellants assert that the "press of other business" prevents them from filing on time, *id.*, but Ninth Circuit Rule 31-2.2(b) is very clear that "[a] conclusory statement as to the press of business does not constitute a showing of diligence and substantial need."

Objector-Appellants have failed to establish diligence *and* substantial need, as required under Rule 31-2.2(b). Objector-Appellants' motion should be denied.

Dated: April 26, 2013 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP MICHAEL F. TUBACH, SBN: 145955

/s/ Michael F. Tubach
MICHAEL F. TUBACH
Two Embarcadero Center, 28th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111
Telephone: (415) 984-8700

Counsel for Defendant-Appellee The Hertz Corporation and Defendant-Appellee Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc. Case: 12-57026 04/26/2013 ID: 8606337 DktEntry: 44 Page: 5 of 9

Dated: April 26, 2013

Dated: April 26, 2013

CROWELL & MORING LLP GREGORY D. CALL, SBN: 120483 BEATRICE B. NGUYEN, SBN: 172961

/s/ Gregory D. Call
GREGORY D. CALL

275 Battery Street, 23rd Floor San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 986-2800 Facsimile: (415) 986-2827

CROWELL & MORING LLP JENNIFER S. ROMANO, SBN: 195953 MICHAEL Y. KAO, SBN: 235263 515 South Flower Street, 40th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071 Telephone: (213) 622-4750

Telephone: (213) 622-4750 Facsimile: (213) 622-2690

Counsel for Defendants-Appellees Enterprise Holdings, Inc. and Vanguard Car Rental USA, LLC

MULVANEY BARRY BEATTY LINN & MAYERS LLP JOHN H. STEPHENS, SBN: 82971

/s/ John H. Stephens JOHN H. STEPHENS

401 West A St., 17th Floor San Diego, CA 92101 Telephone: (619) 238-1010 Facsimile: (619) 238-1981

Counsel for Defendant-Appellee Fox Rent A Car, Inc.

Case: 12-57026 04/26/2013 ID: 8606337 DktEntry: 44 Page: 6 of 9

Dated: April 26, 2013 KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

COREY C. WATSON, SBN: 204679

/s/ Corey C. Watson
COREY C. WATSON

333 South Hope Street Los Angeles, CA 90071 Telephone: (213) 680-8400 Facsimile: (213) 680-8500

Counsel for Defendant-Appellee Avis Budget Group, Inc.

Dated: April 26, 2013 WEINTRAUB TOBIN CHEDIAK

COLEMAN GRODIN CHARLES L. POST, SBN: 160443 DALE C. CAMPBELL, SBN: 99173 SCOTT M. PLAMONDON, SBN:

212294

<u>/s/ Scott M. Plamondon</u> SCOTT M. PLAMONDON

400 Capitol Mall, 11th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 Telephone: (916) 558-6000 Facsimile: (916) 446-1611

Counsel for Defendant-Appellee California Travel and Tourism Commission Case: 12-57026 04/26/2013 ID: 8606337 DktEntry: 44 Page: 7 of 9

FILER'S ATTESTATION

I, Michael Tubach, hereby certify that the content of this DEFENDANTS-APPELLEES' STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO OBJECTOR-APPELLANTS' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME is acceptable to all parties required to sign. All parties authorize me to affix their CM/ECF electronic signatures to this DEFENDANTS-APPELLEES' STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO OBJECTOR-APPELLANTS' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 26, 2013 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP MICHAEL F. TUBACH

/s/ Michael F. Tubach MICHAEL F. TUBACH

Two Embarcadero Center, 28th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 984-8700

Counsel for Defendant-Appellee The Hertz Corporation and Defendant-Appellee Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc.

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CASE PARTICIPANTS LISTED BELOW WILL NOT RECEIVE THIS ELECTRONIC NOTICE:

Michael L. Weiner, Attorney Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP Four Times Square New York, NY 10036

Scott M. Plamondon Weintraub Genshlea Chediak Law Corporation 11th Floor 400 Capitol Mall Sacramento, CA 95814

Thomas J. Lavery 9200 W 174th Street Tinley Park, IL 60487